

### REMARKS/ARGUMENT

The claims have been rewritten in an effort to define the disclosed apparatus more clearly and to limit the same specifically to fastening pins **integral** with the butt end. The advantage of this feature is outlined in the specification.

Particularly as now amended, the claims are respectfully submitted to be patentable under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Conner in view of Tachibana, both cited.

Conner's barbed locking pins 12 are **separate** elements **detached** from the butt ends of the constructional elements to be fastened to the spectacle lenses. Furthermore, the barbed pins are preferably made of **metal** (col. 1, lines 18/19). All that Conner discloses is that the pins be "sufficiently rigid, and have sufficient strength, such that the pins compress the interior of the bushing, without damaging the body of the pin" (col. 7, lines 55-58). This in no way suggests the claimed interrelationship between the modulus of elasticity of the plastics of the fastening pin and sleeve, particularly when considering that the preferred material of Conner's pins is metal. As described in the specification (paragraph bridging pages 2 and 3), plastic fastening pins can be used if this interrelationship is maintained because, although in this case

the annular enlargements of the fastening pins do not have a sufficient hardness to cut into the plastic sleeves, they are hard enough to achieve a cold flowing of the of the sleeve plastic material to form annular grooves in the sleeve wall, thus providing an interlock assuring a durable, traction-proof anchoring of the fastening pins in the sleeves. Thus, neither fastening pins **integral** with the butt end, nor plastic materials of the claimed **modulus of elasticity** are suggested by Conner.

While Tachibana discloses a stop head 3 connecting sleeves 31, 32, it is respectfully submitted that a person of ordinary skill in the art would find no reason to connect Conner's sleeves 14 in this manner since there would be no advantage for doing so in the Conner structure. As a matter of fact, Conner specifically discusses the Tachibana patent (col. 2, lines 14-28) and points out why the patented teaching would not work in his device. Conner uses separate pins and sleeves, and there is no space problem in this arrangement. Problems arise when plastic fastening pins molded onto the butt end in an effort to reduce the size of the butt end overlapping the spectacle lens edge. In this case, the sleeves also must be moved closer together, which leads to difficulties in the axial support of the sleeves. Tachibana provides no teaching in this respect because he provides only one bore in the spectacle lens edge

(wherein pin 21 is inserted in sleeve 31) while second pin 22 inserted in sleeve 32 is spaced therefrom outside the spectacle. Thus, the combination of the references is not obvious from anything taught by the references and can be derived only from applicant's teaching. It was **not** obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the present invention was made, as required by Sec. 103, but is in fact contrary to the statute.

A sincere effort having been made to overcome all grounds of rejection, favorable reconsideration and allowance of claims 3 and 4 are respectfully solicited.

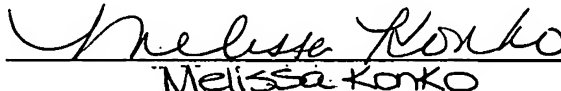
Respectfully submitted,  
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